

# NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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***For Immediate Release***

***JULY 29, 2005***

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on July 21, 2005, and July 28, 2005, **LARRY GENE CHAPMAN**, age 53, of Carmi, Illinois, and **MICHELLE R. BARTH**, age 35, of Evansville, Indiana, were sentenced in United States District Court in Benton, for their roles in a conspiracy to manufacture and distribute methamphetamine. **CHAPMAN** was sentenced to a term of 87 months' imprisonment, 3 years' supervised release, and was fined \$100. **BARTH** was sentenced to 135 months' imprisonment, 5 years' supervised release, and was fined \$300.

The investigation determined that from at least August 2000 through November 2002, **CHAPMAN**, **BARTH**, and others were involved in the manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine. The offenses occurred in White, Gallatin, and Saline Counties. Several large methamphetamine laboratories were discovered within the Southern District of Illinois, and dismantled during this investigation.

Prior to the most recent sentencing, 12 co-conspirators had already received the following prison terms for their role in the methamphetamine conspiracy: **DAVID DUFFY, SR.**: 324 months; **ROBERT MARK DURHAM**: 228 months; **JAMES JOSEPH WATHEN**: 168 months; **DEBORAH HON**: 151 months; **JACQUELINE DUFFY**: 135 months; **RONALD DENEEN BELFORD**: 135 months; **JON W. DAVID**: 135 months; **MICHAEL A. LIBBIE**: 135 months; **PATRICIA GAIL CLARK**: 121 months; **TISCHA B. MILLER**: 87 months; **SUSAN MICHELE MINICK**: 87 months; and **DAVID DUFFY, JR.**: 81 months

This case is being prosecuted as part of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) initiative. Evidence in this investigation was obtained in an investigation conducted by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Internal Revenue Service, the West Frankfort (Illinois) Police Department, the Illinois State Police, and the Posey County (Indiana) Narcotics Unit.

This case is assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson for prosecution.